

Message Text

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TO NSF POLAR

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FOR PRICE LEWIS NSF

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TGEN, AR, US

SUBJ: ISLAS ORCADAS EXPENSES

1. MET WITH CAPT. CASELLAS AND STAFF JUNE 2, 1975. CASELLAS HAD NO KNOWLEDGE OF OUR PRELIMINARY MEETING MAY 6, 1975 AT ARGENTINE NAVAL COMMISSION ON THE SAME SUBJECT.

2. DISCUSSED MARKED IMPROVEMENT CRUISE 5 OVER CRUISE 4. WAS ASSURED THAT STANDARDS OF SUPPORT REALIZED DURING CRUISE 5 WOULD BE MAINTAINED FOR FUTURE CRUISE.

3. CASELLAS THEN SPOKE AT LENGTH OF SUBJECT OF INCREASING COSTS OF FUEL PERSONNEL, GOODS AND SERVICES WHILE OPERATING FUNDS HAD NOT BEEN INCREASED. NSF REP. COUNTERED ON EACH OCCASION WITH FACTUAL STATEMENT ON ESCALATING COSTS EXPERIENCED ON U.S. SIDE. THIS PORTION OF DISCUSSION MADE IT CLEAR THAT BOTH PARTIES MIGHT BE CONSIDERED AS BEING IN A SITE OF FISCAL EMERGENCY.

4. HARWARE DISCUSSION STARTED WITH SATNAV AND SHIPS LOG. CASELLAS STATED THAT JOINT OWNERSHIP WOULD CAUSE EVENTUAL DISPOSITION PROBLEMS. NSF REP CONCURRED AND SAID WE WERE PREPARED TO REPLACE THESE CAPITAL EQUIPMENTS IN THE EVENT AN OVERALL ACCOMMODATION COULD BE REACHED. CASELLAS IMMEDIATELY SAID THAT THE NAVY WAS HOPEFUL THAT THE CURRENT SHIP LEASE WOULD BE RENEWED FOR A SECOND FIVE
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YEAR PERIOD.

5. DISCUSSION THEN SHIFTED TO PER ANNUM RATE. NSF REP STATED THAT WE COULD IN NO WAY SUPPORT THE SHIP AT \$900,000 PER YEAR, THAT WE WERE BUDGETED AT \$550,000 PER YEAR AND HAD LITTLE PROSPECT OF IDENTIFYING ADDITIONAL FUNDS TO INCREASE THE PER ANNUM SUPPORT. CASELLAS THEN PRODUCED CORRESPONDENCE SHOWING UNANTICIPATED CAPITAL OUTLAY AND NSF REP REQUESTED THAT A LETTER ON SUBJECT OF PER ANNUM BE PREPARED CITING SPECIFIC EXAMPLES OF COST INCREASES. CASELLAS AGREED TO DO SO.

6. NEXT TOPIC WAS PROBLEM OF RELIEVING CREW EN TOTO ANNUALLY. CASELLAS SAID COMMANDING OFFICERS WOULD BE REPLACED ANNUALLY BUT THAT THEY PLANNED TO STABILIZE THE CREW FOR TWO YEARS.

7. THROUGHOUT THE FOREGOING DISCUSSION NSF REP RECEIVED THE SOLID IMPRESSION THAT THE ARGENTINES IN NO WAY WISH TO ABANDON THE JOINT SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM. THEY SIMPLY HAVE COME TO THE REALIZATION THAT 1973 COST DATA NO LONGER APPLIES. THE MEETING WAS PLEASANT AND CONSTRUCTIVE THROUGHOUT. NSF REP WILL ATTEND CELEBRATION OF NINETY FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF ARGENTINE HYDROGRAPHIC SERVICE JUNE 4, 1975. BETZEL SENDS. MONTLLOR

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